

Message Text

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ORIGIN EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-06 NEA-06 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00

DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 AGR-05

CEA-01 COME-00 FRB-01 H-01 INR-07 INT-05 L-02 LAB-04

NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 AID-05 CIEP-01 SS-15 STR-01

TAR-01 TRSE-00 PRS-01 SP-02 OMB-01 FEA-01 /103 R

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NEA/IRN:CNAAS

TREASURY:MCHAVES (INFO)

STR:SLANDE (SUBS)

COMMERCE:GBARE (INFO)

AGRICULTURE:CHARVEY (INFO)

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O R 270101Z DEC 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ROME PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

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E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: ENRG, ETRD, FR, EEC, IR

SUBJECT: EC-IRAN PREFERENCE PROPOSAL - REVERSAL OF GOF POSITION

REF: (A) PARIS 30928, (B) STATE 171057

1. EMBASSY PARIS REQUESTED CONFIRM TO BRUNET (OR, IN BRUNET'S ABSENCE, OTHER SENIOR MFA OFFICIAL) THAT EXTENSION OF MEDITERRANEAN-TYPE PREFERENCES TO IRAN CLEARLY WOULD BE INCONSISTENT WITH GEOGRAPHIC LIMIT ON EC PREFERENCES WHICH ESTABLISHED AS RESULT OF MARCH 1973 CASEY-SOAMES MEETING. EC COMMITMENT TO LIMIT GEOGRAPHIC SPREAD OF PREFERENCES REITERATED ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS IN US-EC CONSULTATIONS, INCLUDING CATEGORICAL STATEMENT BY CHEYSSON (REF B, PARA 3) DURING JULY 29-31, 1974 MEETING IN WASHINGTON TO DISCUSS EC AND US RELATIONS WITH DEVELOPING COUNTRIES.

2. REQUEST YOU ADVISE BRUNET OF OUR ASTONISHMENT THAT GOF OFFICIALS FAILED TO BE AWARE OF CONFLICT BETWEEN CHIRAC AGREEMENT (REF B) TO SUPPORT PREFERENTIAL STATUS FOR IRAN AND LONGSTANDING EC COMMITMENT TO US EMBODIED IN CASEY-SOAMES UNDERSTANDING AND FURTHER DEVELOPED IN SUBSEQUENT US-EC CONSULTATIONS. WE CAN NOT UNDERSTAND BASIS BRUNET MIGHT HAVE FOR QUESTIONING EC COMMISSION AUTHORITY IN THIS MATTER. PREFERENCES ISSUES HAVE BEEN REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS TO WHICH CONSIDERABLE ATTENTION AND PREPARATION HAVE BEEN DIRECTED BY BOTH SIDES.

3. GOF SUDDEN REVERSAL OF POSITION ON PREFERENCES RUNS COUNTER TO USG-GOF UNDERSTANDING ON IMPROVED USE OF PRIOR CONSULTATIONS ON ISSUES OF MUTUAL INTEREST. IN ITS SUBSTANCE, GOF DECISION TO SUPPORT EC-IRAN PREFERENTIAL ARRANGEMENT CAN NOT RPT NOT BE RECONCILED WITH NEED FOR ENERGY CONSUMER SOLIDARITY RECOGNIZED IN MARTINIQUE COMMUNIQUE. EMBASSY SHOULD SEEK REPLIES TO FOLLOWING LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SPECIFIC QUESTIONS: HOW DOES GOF SEE ITS ACTIONS BEING SQUARED WITH CRITICAL NEED FOR BUILDING SOLIDARITY IN APPROACH OF CONSUMER COUNTRIES TO ENERGY CRISIS? WHAT WILL GOF RESPONSE BE, IN LIGHT OF EC-IRAN POLICY SWITCH, TO POSSIBLE REQUESTS FOR SIMILAR TREATMENT BY OTHER MAJOR OIL PRODUCERS IN MIDEAST OR ELSEWHERE? HAS GOF CONSIDERED IMPLICATIONS FOR MULTILATERAL TRADE NEGOTIATIONS OF NEW MAJOR MOVE BY EC TOWARD DISCRIMINATORY BILATERAL TRADE

ARRANGEMENTS? WE ALSO WOULD LIKE TO KNOW WHETHER GOF INTENDS ACTIVE PURSUIT WITHIN EC OF PREFERENTIAL AGREEMENT WITH IRAN AND, IF SO, WHAT NEXT STEPS WOULD BE.

4. AT PRESENT TIME, WE WISH EC BRUSSELS AND EMBASSIES IN OTHER EC MEMBER STATES TO MAKE SIMILAR REPRESENTATIONS NOTING THAT OUR ATTENTION HAS BEEN CALLED TO THE CHIRAC COMMUNIQUE BY THE GOF. REPRESENTATIONS SHOULD STATE US OBJECTIONS NOTED ABOVE AND SHOULD INDICATE THAT US TRUSTS THAT GOF INTENT TO PURSUE EC PREFERENTIAL ASSOCIATION WITH IRAN WILL NOT HAVE SUPPORT OF RESPECTIVE COUNTRY (NOTWITHSTANDING PREVIOUS DANISH AND GERMAN INDICATIONS OF SUPPORT FOR EITHER GENERAL OR LIMITED PREFERENTIAL ARRANGEMENTS), EC COMMISSION, OR OTHER MEMBER STATES. DETAILED REPORTING REQUESTED SOONEST ON RESPONSE OF EC AND OTHER MEMBER STATES TO GOF ATTITUDE ON EC-IRAN PREFERENTIAL TRADING ARRANGEMENT. BROWN

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